The production has been affected adversely due to heavy power cut in the cement producing States. The production of cement is monitored closely by the Office of the Development Commissioner for Cement Industry and whenever assistance is required by way of availability of inputs like coal, power and wagons, the matter is taken up with the concerned authorities like the State Electricity Board|State Government, Deptt. of Coal/Coal Organisations and Ministry of Railways to render necessary assistance to prevent shortfall in production.

Having regard to the power cuts prevailing in a number of cement producing States, the Cement Industry has been advised to set up captive power plants|generation capacity to meet the situation of power shortage. To encourage the setting up of captive DG Sets, appropriate relief is allowed by reducing the levy quota to neutralise additional cost involved in using power generated at higher cost from the captive DG Sets.

Carbide Plant in Orissa

2733. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a propsoal to set up a carbide plant in the Rairangpur industrial area of Orissa;

(b) if so, what will be the cost of that plant;

(c) whether calcium carbide will be produced in that plant;

(d) if so, what will be the capacity of that plant; and

(e) by when that plant is expected to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (e) Government have no proposal to set up a Calcium Carbide Plant in the Rairangpur industrial area of Orissa. However, M/s. Indian Carbide and Chemicals Limited are setting up a Calcium Carbide Plant in Tehsil Rairangpur, Orissa in a joint sector, with M/s. Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation limited, a Government of Orissa Undertaking, with an annual capacity of 14,850 tonnes. As per available information, the project outlay of the unit is estimated a Rs. 1152 lakhs. The unit was earlier expected to come into commercial production by March, 1986. However, the company has now informed us that due to some unavoidable delay, the unit is expected to be commissioned by June, 1988.

Satellite network for communication

2734. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some public sector undertakings have been using satellite network for communication purposes;

(b) whether some more public sector undertakings also propose to extend their communication network through INSAT-I-B; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the public sector undertakings which have taken steps to use the satellite?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir. These are:

(i) Oil and Natural Gas Commission.

(ii) National Fertilizers Ltd., and

(iii) Indian Telephone Industries.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 1. For the following Public Sector Undertakings the schemes